

down to Blacksburg and Christiansburg and, hopefully, all the way down to Bristol. This is terribly important to make sure that those communities have a multimodal form of transportation opportunities and making sure we get those trucks off of I-81, something we have been talking about for a long time. If we increase the rail capacity, both freight and passenger, we will be able to do that.

We also know in Southside and Southwest, post-COVID, that high-speed internet connectivity is not a "nice to have" but an absolute necessity. A top priority of mine, as somebody who has spent more years in the telecommunications industry than I have in politics, is to make sure that we make those connections. This legislation—historic legislation—has \$65 billion for broadband. That investment, building on Governor Northam's \$700 million investment from Virginia and American Rescue Plan funds, will make sure that every household across the Commonwealth has access to high-speed internet connectivity, not 5 years from now or 10 years from now but in the next couple of years.

And, finally, across Southwest Virginia—and for that matter, across all of Virginia—we still have families in far Southwest that don't have access to clean drinking water on a regular basis, that still have to sometimes haul their water in the back of a pickup truck up to some cistern, and they don't have access to clean drinking water in 2021. Well, \$55 billion will go to water projects in this legislation. And whether they be access to clean drinking water on a regular basis or whether it be taking out the lead pipes that haunt too many of our urban communities, or the storm and sewer systems that are, frankly, in some cases, 60, 70, 80 years old and simply wearing out, we can make that investment as well.

Now, there are a series of other areas in this legislation that are equally important, but at the end of the day, I can't think of a bill that I have worked on that will have more direct effect on the lives of every Virginian over the next 5 years in terms of how you get to work, how you get to school, how you manage to take the kids out on the weekends, how our commerce moves, how we get our water, and how we get our internet than this record-setting \$550 billion bipartisan investment in infrastructure.

It is time for the Senate to take this bill up. I again commend all of my colleagues who have been working on this legislation, not just the so-called G-10 but the G-22. I thank Leader SCHUMER for his good work, continuing to push this legislation forward. I want to thank the White House for its constant involvement. I even want to commend Leader MCCONNELL for voting with this bipartisan group to move this legislation along. We have talked about this for 30 years. We are literally days away from this passing the U.S. Senate. We

have got to finish the job and get it done.

With that, I hope I have kept you riveted and now you are fully familiar with all the needs of Virginia. I am sure you can address similar needs in Minnesota. But I thank the Presiding Officer and all of the staffs who are here working on this Saturday, the last day in July, in the summer, to get this job done.

With that, I note the absence—I don't yield the floor.

I would have been surprised if the Presiding Officer had asked me to speak for another 30 minutes, but I will choose not to do that because I have great respect for the floor staff.

So I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess subject to the call of the chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 2:43 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 5:16 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. BALDWIN).

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

H.R. 3684

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I just want to give a quick update.

As everyone knows, we are waiting for the bipartisan group of Senators to finalize the text of their agreement. I have been informed the group is working hard to bring this negotiation to a conclusion, but they believe they need a little bit more time. I am prepared to give it to them because—because, as I have always said from the beginning, I am fully committed to passing a bipartisan infrastructure bill, and so the Senate will remain in session today so that they can bring this to a conclusion.

Again, this is an important bill. I know all the parties want to get this right. As soon as their legislative text is finalized, we will review it, and then I will offer it as the substitute amendment. After that, we can begin voting for amendments.

#### RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess subject to the call of the Chair.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:18 p.m., recessed subject to the call of the Chair and reassembled at 9:51 p.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. BENNET).

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

H.R. 3684

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, the bipartisan group of Senators has still not finalized the legislative text of their substitute amendment. The staffs are still working and say they will have the final legislative text ready tomorrow. Therefore, the Senate will reconvene tomorrow at 12 noon.

As I have said, when the legislative text is ready, I will offer it as the substitute amendment, and, after that, we can begin voting on amendments.

As a reminder, upon completion of the bipartisan infrastructure bill, the Senate will turn to the budget resolution with reconciliation instructions.

I want to thank the Capitol Police, the clerks, and the Senate staff for working these past 2 late nights.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1597. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Plan" (RIN1810-AB64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1598. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fraud and Abuse; Removal of Safe Harbor Protection for Rebates Involving Prescription Pharmaceuticals and Creation of New Safe Harbor Protection for Certain Point-of-Sale Reductions in Price on Prescription Pharmaceuticals and Certain Pharmacy Benefit Manager Service Fees; Additional Delayed Effective Date" (RIN0936-AA08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1599. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation" ((RIN1801-AA21) (34 CFR Parts 36 and 668)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1600. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2020 Report to Congress State Pilot Grant Program for Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum Women"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1601. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Public Health Data System Modernization Strategy and Implementation Plan"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1602. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled